LOUISIANA DRAGOONED

United States Soldiers Break Up the Legislature.

THE CONSERVATIVE COUP D'ETAT.

Five Members Rejected by the Board Scated by the House.

KELLOGG COMMANDS THE PEDERAL TROOPS.

Manly Protest of the Democratic Speaker.

Conservative Members Marched Out Between Files of Soldiers.

CREAT INDIGNATION AND EXCITEMENT.

The People Quiet and Forbearing.

Statements to the Herald by the Leaders.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 4, 1875.

The morning opened with everything quiet. The United States troops were stationed upon the levee and St. Louis street, and consisted of the whole of the Thirteenth infantry, Companies A. G. F and H of the Third infantry, seven companies of the Twenty-second infantry, Company Lof the Pirst artillery and Company H of the Seventh cavalry. The excitement was intense. POSITION OF THE GENERAL OFFICERS.

General De Trobriand was in immediate comand of the United States forces, and General Emory temporarily established his headquarters at

the Custom House. General Sheridan was at the St. Charles Hotel. Governor McEnery established his office at Antoine's restaurant, on St. Louis street, within a few yards of the hotel. General Orden's headquarters were at No. 71 St. Louis street. He assured your correspondent that the White League were only under arms to preserve the peace, and regarded any conflict with the troops as impossible.

ADDITIONAL INDIGNATION was manifested among the people at a rumor that the Returning Board was again in session and intended promulgating additional returns so as to secure control of the House.

THE EXTERIOR OF THE STATE HOUSE looked very warlike. What with the crowd on the streets, the presence of the military, the stacked arms, occasional rolling of drums and the anxiety depicted upon every countenance, the scene was very impressive. The conservative members, pambering fifty returned members and about twenty contestants, were in caucus in a room adjoining the Hall of Representatives.

THE CONTESTANTS

were admitted to the floor of the House. Only forty-two radical members were reported as present. They claimed the co-operation of nine conservatives. Lowell was nominated in caucus last night for Speaker. Estellette, who has conservative sympathies, refused the honor. Governor McEnery informed your correspondent that he ex pected a conservative defeat in the House. In logg, was to the following purport: case of a triumph he apprehended either the inadmitted to the lobby or else the retirement of all the radical members, who would organize separately and be recognized by Kellogg.

ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE

At twenty minutes before twelve M. the members entered the hall from the caucus room, and the organization began. Ex-Governor Hahn was the radical and Wiltz the conservative candidate for Speaker. The conservatives felt more conadent than before. The crowd increased around the State House, and Governor McEnery issued the following appeal to the people:-

GOVERNOR M'ENERY'S APPEAL.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 4, 1875. I appeal to the people to be calm and patient. Any public disturbance will thwart our plans and ose us the struggle. Conduct yourselves, therefore, with calmness and dignity and all will yet be JOHN MCENERY. Upon organizing Wiltz was elected Speaker pro

tem. of the House. The Senate did not organize. KELLOGG'S PEREMPTORY ORDER.

The following is a copy of the official orders issued by Kellogg for the occupation of the State

ISPECIAL ORDER NO. 1.1 STATE OF LOUISIANA, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 2, 1875.

[Extract.] First-It having come to the knowledge of the Commander-in-Chief, through reliable authority, that bodies of men acting together by force, with intent to offer violence to the persons of the General Assembly and to resist the laws of the State, are threatening and are likely to assemble for the aforesaid unlawful purposes on Monday, the 4 to day of January next, Major General James Longstreet and Brigadier General A. S. Badger will order such part of the State militia as they may have in readiness to assemble at the State House in New Orleans on the 4th day of January, 1875, to aid the civil authorities in suppressing all and any such threatened violence and supporting the law. Second-in order to prevent the aforesaid violence and resistance to the laws the State House will be kept closed and free from intruders, or from any mob or disorderly assemblage or gathering, on Monday, January 4, 1875, and as long thereafter as may be necessary, except such persons as may be designated in paragraph third of

House on the first konday in January next, 4th Inst., except members of the State government, members of the General Assembly or persons claiming to be members thereof, judicial officers, members of Congress, officers of the United States civil military or naval service, and the forces pro-

Fourth-Major Generals Longstreet and Campbell and Brigadier General Badger are intrusted with HENRY STREET, Adjutant General, H. J. CAMPBELL, Major General First division,

made by the conservatives was by electing Wiltz by acclamation temporary chairman, who ordered Vigers, the Clerk of the old House, to call

the roil. Morrell and Lowell protested, and some

pointed by the Chair. A motion was then made to admit the members claiming seats from the parishes not acted upon by the Beturning Board. Carned. A motion was then made to go into an election for Speaker. After more flibustering, the motion was carried, and resulted as follows:-Wiltz, 53; Rahn, 2; blank, 1-the radicals not voting.

The Senate organized formally without holding session. Its President and the Governor refused to recognize Witz as Speaker. They claimed that the Hall of Representatives was in the possession of a mob, and not a Legislature. The radicals went into caucus, with the intention of organizing as a Legislature which Kellegg and Antoine would recognize. When your correspondent as this time left the State House it was filled with radical politicians. Kellogg and Dibble were in ciose consultation with General de Trobriand, and telegraphic correspondence was rapidly going on between the Governor and General Emory. The radicals determined not to recognize the Wiltz House. Outside the door of the State House there was a large delegation of conservative sergeantsat-arms to prevent the egress of members. It was the intention of Wilts to hold the House in continuous session all day and night. The crowd about the building was not so large as in the morning, but exceedingly good-humored. McEnery's headquarters were crowded with leading conservatives, all of whom appeared jubilant and confident and convinced that they acted strictly within the pale of the law.

INVASION OF THE STATE HOUSE. At a quarter past three o'clock P. M. the United States military moved up in front of the State House, completely surrounding it, when General de Trobriand entered and proceeded to the House with a military order unseating Speaker Wiltz and the five members claimed to have been irregularly seated. Wiltz immediately corresponded with McEnery, and, upon the recommendation of the latter, was about withdrawing with all the conservative members. The military order was presumed to have been issued by Sheridan in response to an application from Kellogg for armed lederal assistance. The excitement grew intense, but was not violent.

M'ENERY'S APPERTHOUGHT. McEnery afterwards advised Wiltz to remain in the chair until ejected, and he consequently peremptorily refused to obey General Trobriand, who appeared on the floor, backed by about thirty men. About four o'clock De Trobriand, who had retired momentarily, then entered with General Campbell, who pointed out the five members to be ejected, each of whom, after making a protest, was marched out between two United States soldiers. Without these the polical complexion of the House stands fifty-two radicals to forty-nine conservatives. Wiltz made a manly speech, denying the right of United States troops to eject him, and declared that it could only be done by bodily or armed force. Wittz was finally ejected by the troops, and all the conservative members withdrew. Speeches were made to the people from the conservative headquarters by Wiltz, Marr and Ogden, who advised them to return to their homes and preserve peace. The conservative members

THE EJECTMENT SCENE. From three o'clock P. M. to forty-five minutes past three the scene in the House was a comparatively quiet one. At that hour, when General de Trobriand entered, in company with an aid, and walking up to the Speaket's desk informed him that he had two documents he wished to have read to the House, excitement ran nigh. Vigers. the Clerk, being prevented, the aid proceeded to read them. One was an order on the Clerk of the House to have the five recently elected members pointed out to him, and the other, officially addressed to himself and signed by Governor Kel

met in caucus at seven o'clock P. M.

session of the hall of the House of Representatives, and the police being unable to remove them, I respectfully request you to remove therefrom all persons not entitled to remain."

General de Trobriand then said, "I must now request members herein indicated to retire. My orders from General Emory are to comply with all requests made and instructions given by Governor

Speaker Wiltz then rose and said he desired to state that the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana had been duly organized, and wished to know whether General Emory was aware

General de Trobriand answered that he didn't know whether General Emory was aware of it or

The Speaker then asked whether it was his intention to remove from the body gentlemen who had been seated in it since its organization.

General de Trobriand answered that he was not there to decide the legality of the action of any member, but only to obey orders, and hoped that his presence alone would prove sufficient to enforce them. To this statement Speaker Wiltz replied as follows:-"While I am Speaker of this House I am obliged to you for your consideration in coming here alone, and, while I respect you as a gentleman and a soldier, yet I cannot instruct its members to leave the hail. You must use force

General de Trobriand responding that he would make a show of force, immediately retired and shortly returned with a file of fifteen United States soldiers, who were halted in the rear of the hall. He then advanced and ordered Vigers to call the roll. Vigers endeavored to take possession of the clerk's desk, but was prevented, the Speaker warning him not to do it.

NOISY MEMBERS

encouraged him with shouts, but the Speaker was firm and Vigers proceeded to call the roll in front of the desk. Against this the Speaker protested, and required General de Trobriand to state to the House explicitly that he had sumcient force to secure the calling of the roll. At the conclusion of this ceremony Vigers was requested by the General to point out the members to be elected. Not being able to comply, General Campbell was summoned and proceeded to designate them. As he did so each individual in turn was taken in custody by two soldiers, and, after making a formal protest, was marched out of the Legislative hail. When Thomas Vaughn, of Caddo,

A SILVER-HEADED OLD MAN. was accosted by General De Trobriand and his guards, he rose very slowly to his feet and said in most solemn and impressive terms :- "A general of the United States Army has placed his hand upon my shoulder and commanded me to leave the floor of this House. As a member of this body, duly elected by the people of Caddo parish, and as an

American freemen are not yet all dead, I desire to enter my solemn protest against this outrage." He was then marched out by his captors amid the

profound allence of the late so noisy Assembly. Almost entirely similar scenes were enacted in the case of Jeffeys, Luckett and Stafford, of Rapides; Dunn, of Grant, and Kelly, of Winn, who severally entered their protests and were marched out amid the indignant hisses of all assembled. After their ejectment General Camp bell approached General De Trobriand and asked him to request Speaker Wiltz to allow Vigers to take his seat. Upon the request being made the Speaker refused to recognize Vigers in any capacity, and stated that Campbell, not being a member of the House, had no right to speak upon its floor. Campbell expostulated and explained, whereupon De Trobriand interceded and informed Mr. Wiitz that he must obey orders.

WILTZ STILL DECLINING TO SURRENDER. he ordered up the troops from the rear and the work was accomplished. Vigers dashed into his seat, and Speaker Wilts, gazing upon the scene in stient indignation, stepped slowly down from his desk in a most impressive manner, and with a voice broken with emotion delivered the follow-

WILTZ'S LAST PROTEST.

"In the name of the people of the United States, and in the name of my bleeding State, and in the name of the God of Justice, I again enter my solemn protest against this interference. Gentlemen of the House of Representatives, your Legislature has been invaded and taken possession of by the military forces of the United States. Under these circumstances I do not consider it my duty to longer remain." He then stepped down amid enthusiastic applause. He then slowly left the hall. followed by all the conservative members. During the progress of the concluding events, Mr. Lowell, one of the radical candidates for Speaker, pronounced his protest against the employment of United States troops and said he had been elected by civil authority and did not wish to be seated by military authority.

THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE. An invitation was presented to the Congres sional committee to attend the organization of the Legislature. Mr. Phelps moved its acceptance. Mr. Potter objected. He said that during the morning he had tried to pass the State House and had been repulsed by the police, supported by the United States military in the surrounding streets in force. Every citizen had as, much right to be present as a committee of Congress, which body had absorately no authority whatever over the oresnization or action of any State Legislature; and he thought, therefore, the committee should not be present in its official capacity. The committee, however, decided to go, and with them went the Clerk and Sergeant-at-Arms. They were stopped as they approached the State House, and only allowed to pass after obtaining permission from the officer in command.

THE FRAUD CONSUMMATED

After entering the Bouse of Representative they were admitted to the floor, except Mr. Potter, who declined to enter, and remained without the bar and shortly after left the building. After the conservatives withdrew the House organized and elected Hahn permanent Speaker and Vigers Clerk. Upon motion of Lowell a committee was appointed to wait on Governor Kellogg and notify him that the House was organized and ready to proceed to business. The Governor then, through his private secretary, transmitted his annual Message and returned twenty-eight bills without his signature. Upon motion of Dewees Tyler, Johnson and Ward, of Red River, were sworn in, and the Speaker appointed a committee of seven on credentials. At six o'clock they adjourned until to-morrow at noon. At four o'clock the State House was entered and occupied by United States troops, and is now strongly guarded outside. About half the force remain on guard during the night, and the rest were sent back to the barracks about ten o'clock.

of any attack are entertained. The excitement increases in the city, but is not of an aggressive nature. The hotels and public resorts are crowded with people discussing the eventful affairs of the

QUIET AT THE STATE HOUSE.

Your correspondent visited the State House tonight and found it very quiet. All the members are sleeping in the building. Governor Kellogg was alone with a few friends in his private office. and being interrogated in behalf of the HERALD. made substantially the following statement:-

GOVERNOR KELLOGG'S STATEMENT. I was anxious for a quiet and peaceful organization of the General Assembly. I did not attempt, during the session of the Returning Board, to influence in any manner its proceed ings. When it made its returns, leaving the House close, the Senate having twothirds republican members, I hoped for an amicable settlement of all dissensions. I asked the Congressional Committee to investigate the election of 1872, and was willing to abide by their decision. Last evening a committee w aited upon me and requested that the democratic members returned as elected, as well as their contestants, be allowed to come into the State House at nine o'clock A. M. and hold a caucus in one of the rooms. I consented cheerfully to this arrangement, with the understanding that there would be no attempt upon the part of those contestants not returned by the Board to prevent by force a reguiar and legal organization of the House. I insisted that our party should put in nomination

AN UNEXCEPTIONABLE MAN for Speaker. Ex-Governor Hahn, who was elected by both parties from St. Charles parish, was then nominated. When the hour of meeting arrived it was found that three of the opposition members were absent and two of the three of our members, who had been detained, had succeeded in reaching the State House. We thus had fifty-two members present, and were confident of the support of two of the opposition-a clear majority of three. The law provides that the Secretary of State shall make the old Clerk of the House supply a list of members returned as elected. This had been done, and upon the assembling of the House the Clerk proceeded, in conformity with law, to call the roll. Before he had finished and announced the result ONE OF THE OPPOSITION

sprung to his seet and moved that Wiltz be made temporary Speaker. The vote was put by this member and declared carried, whereupon Wiltz, with two or three men, sprung upon the platform, wrenched the gavel from the Clerk and declared himself Speaker of the House. Several democratic contestants immediately rushed forward, and were

doned his desk, and Trezevant, of Caddo, was ap- | American citizen believing that the rights of from the pistform with the lists of regularly re- | 25 Clerk of the House, and protested against | rate of taxation for State purposes to 12% mills, turned members in his possession, and which he retained. Some thirty or forty desperate characters had succeeded in effecting an entrance to the hall eluding

who were immediately declared sergeants-at-

THE VIGILANCE OF THE POLICE,

arms, throwing open their coats and exhibiting prepared badges. The hall was immediately thrown into confusion, and a prepared roll of the democrats and their contestants was commenced to be called, when the republicans attempted to leave the hall. Most of them succeeded in getting out. Three or four were prevented, as they say, and, threatened with blows and pistols, pushed to the Speaker's desk and compelled to be aworn in. As soon as possible they also left the ball. In the meantime a protest to me was prepared by fity-two members, a clear majority of those regularly returned and who were then present in the State House at the first attempt at organization. This protest set forth the character of the revolutionary proceedings; the forcible displacing of the Clerk; the swearing in of the contestants, &c., in detail. In the meantime, the Senate had organized with twenty-six Senators out of the whole thirty-six. Upon receiving this protest I ordered a squad of police to appear in front of the hall door, then closed by the democratic sergeants-at-arms, and demand admittance. Their number was found considerably augmented by a number of persons who had, during the confusion, slipped in as rein forcements. The structs began to be blocked up all around the building, and I immediately TELEGRAPHED TO GENERAL EMORY

at the Custom House, requesting nim to move his troops to aid the police, about fifty in number, in clearing the street in front of the State House. This was done, troops occupying the centre of the street. It was now evident that resistance would be made to the police entering the hall. The crowd was augmenting every moment and danger of violence constantly increasing. I telegraphed, requesting that a small detachment of military be brought into the building to aid the police, orders being given that no member returned as elected nor any regular officer of the Legislature should be interfered with, but that the mob and persons not returned as elected should be removed from the floor of the house. This was done, and the hall was cleared of all but the regular members and officers. The Clerk proceeded again to call the roll, which he still retained, announcing a quorum present. The fifty-two republicans and several of the opposition remained in the hall. The vote proceeded for Speaker, and Hahn received fifty-four votes, which was one majority of the whole number returned elected. We have a good conservative Speaker. I am opposed to anything like QUESTIONABLE MEASURES

such as unseating any of the opposition entitled to their seats. I am confident that a number of them will immediately come into our House. I hope for some speedy solution of our difficulties, either by action of Congress or otherwise. I am still willing to let the Congressional Committee decide as to the legal government, and if it is decided that I was not elected in 1872 I shall be only too giad to retire. I carnestly hoped for an amicable organization and regret the proceedings of to-day, but I became satisfied that nothing short of a revolution would satisfy the opposition cannot see how, as long as we maintain our present attitude, any serious difficulty can prevail. and I hope in a few days that wiser councils will

STATEMENT OF SPEAKER WILTZ NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 4, 1875.

Speaker Wiltz called at the bureau of the HERALD to-night and made the following statement:-

Last evening a committee was sent to the State House to ask for a room for the purpose of holding The request was granted at ten A. M. The caucus was held at half-past eleven, the conservatives proceeding to the house in a body. At noon the old Clerk of the House, Mr. Vigers, called the roll and 102 members answered. I con sidered that the formalities of law had been compiled with and the organization rested with the majority. A motion was made and carried that I be declared Speaker pro tem. of the Bouse. Thereupon I took the chair, until then occupied by the Clerk. I then called upon Judge Bouston, a Justice of the Peace, who swore me in. The members were then sworn in by me. A motion was then made and carried to elect a temporary Clerk and a tempo rary Sergeant-at-Arms. A resolution was then offered to seat the five conservative members whose cases were not passed upon by the Returning Roard. The resolution was adopted and the five members were sworn in and took their seats The House then proceeded to a permanent organization. Governor Hahn and myself were

NOMINATED FOR SPEAKER, a call of the roll was ordered and fifty-five votes were cast for me and two were cast for Hahn. I voted blank, making in all fifty-eight votes, fifty six being a quorum. I was then declared elected permanent Speaker of the House. The temporary Clerk was then elected permanent Clerk, and the temporary Sergeant-at-Arms permanent Sergeant at-Arms. I then announced the House perma nently organized. A motion was made and carried to appoint a committee of seven on creden tials, election and returns.

During that time some of the republican members withdrew. The committee appointed consisted of five conservatives and two republicans The committee asked for and obtained permission to withdraw for deliberation, which was granted. An attempt was now made by some republican members to leave the ball. I then ordered the Sergeant-at-Arms to prevent them. This caused considerable confusion in the lobby, filled with Metropolitan police and radicals, admission to most of our sergeants-at-arms having been previously denied by Hugh J. Campbell, General of Kellogg's militia, 1 then ordered the Sergeant-at-Arms to clear the lobby, which was done. We were then

WAITING POB THE REPORT

of the Committee on Credentials, a quorum of the members being present, when General De Trobriand entered the ball and informed me that he had received instructions from Governor Ketlogg to the effect that the House of Representatives was in possession of a mob, and desired him to clear the house of all persons who were not returned by the Weils Returning Board. I asked that the document be read, and he offered it to Vigers, whom he said he was instructed by Governor Kellogg to recog-

the reading of any document by Vigers. The General then had the document read by his Adjutant, who accompanied him. The Clerk of the House and myself declined to point out the members who had been seated by order of the House. The General withdrew after applying to Vigers, who was either unwilling or unable to point them out. General De Trobriand returned shortly in company with General Campbell, who pointed them out. Previous to the appearance of General De Tropriand the Committee on Credensials nad reported, and eight contestants (all conservatives) had been seated by the House. When General De Trobriand attempted to eject Mr. Vaugtn, from Caddo, Mr. Vaugnn protested. I directed Mr. Vaughn not to allow himself to be ejected except at the point of the bayones. General De frobriand then called upon

SOLDIERS DRAWN UP IN LINE

in the lobby of the House, with bayonets fixed and, between a file of soldiers, Mr. Vaughn was marched out of the House, and successively. in the same manner, each member who had been seated by order of the House was marched out, each member protesting and asking that his protest be placed on the journal. Immediately thereafter the General approached me and informed me that, in obedience to his orders from Governor Kellogg, he would have the roll called by Vigers. I again protested against the execution of such an order, satisfied that the House being organized the Governor could not call upon the lederal troops. General De Trobriand ordered the roll called. Vigers was about to call the roll, when I ordered my Sergeant-at-Arms to eject Mr. Vigers, which order was obeyed. The General thereupon called in a file of soldiers and surrounding the Clerk the roll was again about being called by him. I again

PROTESTED IN POSITIVE LANGUAGE and gave notice that I would withdraw and ask the members not to participate in any further proceedings of the House under federal bayonets. I and the conservative members of the House then withdrew. I desire in addition to state that my object in organizing the House in the manner I did had several legislative precedents. The whole proceedings were copied from the journal of the radical Legislature of 1868, of which I was a member, the legality of which was afterward substantiated by all the courts of our State.

GOVERNOR KELLOGG'S MESSAGE.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 4, 1875. The following are the more important portions of Governor Keilogg's Message to the Legisla-

Since the adjournment of your predecessors disastrous crevasses in the levees have destroyed the crops in several sections of the State and pro duced much suffering among the people, which however, has been greatly mitigated by the be-nevolence of the citizens of other States, notably of Massachusetts, and by the bounty waich the general government has bestowed upon us with unsparing band.

Political disturbances of a grave and a widespread character have also seriously impaired the Both these causes have diminished the revenues and prevented a close collection of taxes; yet, in the year that has just passed, the receipts been nearly equal to the expenses. The rate of and, for the first time for many years, not one dollar has been added to the public debt, which, on the contrary, has been sensibly reduced. Calling to mind the unparalleled difficulties the State government has had to encounter since the first day of its inauguration. I may be pardoned for retained under such adverse circumstances.

PUBLIC DEBT AND TAXATION. The total bonded and floating debt of the State when the present administration came into office. of the amount due the fiscal agentviz., \$150,000, which has since been paid—was \$23,933,407. (Auditor's report of December 31, increased the first year of this administration by the issue of bonds authorviz :- Bonds issued to the New Orleans, Mobile and Texas Railroad Company, on a section of tweive miles of completed railroad, under act No. 31 of 1870, for \$125,000, and bonds issued to the North Louisiana and Texas Railroad Company, under act No. 108 of 1869, for \$576,000; making a total of \$24,634,407. The issue of the last named bonds was rendered obligatory upon me by a decision of the Supreme Court of the State.

By the redemption of past due bonds.

By exchange of \$50,220 new bonds for \$1,40,700 bonds at 60 cents on the dollar...

Exportion of the Floating dear.

By retirement of oil outstanding warrants from back taxes of \$50,000, and by exchange under Funding bill of \$13,272,490 oil warrants for \$10,963,490 of consolidated bonds.

* Nork.—This total does not agree with figures, but is

The rate of taxation in the city of New Orleans in 1872, when the present State government came into office, was :- State, including school, 21% mills; city, 30 mills. Total, 5114 mills. The of taxation for the present year, as reduced by the measures passed by the last Legislature, is:-State, including schools, 14% mills; city, 25 mills. Total, 39% mills making a reduction of the taxation of the city and State under this administration of 12 mills. As the rate of parish taxation is, by law, limited to the rate of State taxation, and the rate of State taxation is now limited by a constitutional amendment to 14 % mills, including schools, it follows that in no parish of the State, outside of the parish Orleans, can a heavier tax than 29 m levied in any one year. In previous years the State reach as high as 70 mills. The act adonted by the last Legislature providing for the funding ment connected therewith, which have since been ratified by the people, form a most important feature in the financial history of the State.

A FLING AT THE DEMOCRATS. When the present State government came into mce the public debt, contracted by the previous democratic and republican Legislatures, was confessedly out of all proportion to the resources of the State, and the incoming administration had to face the alternative of repudiation or compromise with the creditors of the State. Believing that indiscriminate repudiation of the obligation of the State, whether justly or unjustly incurred. disastrous to the State, we sought first to test through the courts the validity of such bonds as were popularly believed to have been issued without adequate consideration, and then to effect such an adjustment of the remaining voted bonds as would be as fair as possible to our creditors and afford that relief which was absolutely necessary to the taxpayers of the State. It will not be forgotten how carefully each step which led to the passage of the Funding bill was considered; how the advice of the Chamber of Commerce and the eading business men was asked and obtained, and, finally, how the State, anxious to pay its jus creditors to the utmost limit of its capacity, fixed the rate of funding at a point ten per cent higher than the limit which experienced financiers who had examined into our resources deemed the State able to pay. In connection with the Funding bill I recommended to the Legislature the adoption of

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS nize as Clerk. I refused to recognize Mr. Vigers | limiting the State debt to \$15,000,000, limiting the

exclusive of schools; confining the revenue each year to the expenses of that year, and prohibiting the issue of Treasury warrants in excess of the revenues. These amendments were adopted by the Legislature, and were submitted to the people at the recent election. It is a source in the blind prejudice of partisan warfare the scope and purpose of these amendments were ly misrepresented and strong efforts were made to defeat them-the people formally approved the financial policy of my administration, and ratified each of the amendments submitted to them by a vote much larger than that cast for either of the party tickets placed in the field. I believe the effect of these amendments on th

cannot be otherwise than most beneficial, as the source from which the greater part of our burdenwarrants year by year in excess of revenue-is are so limited and defined that when peace is once more restored to us capital can find investment here without fear of oppressive taxation; and even our creditors, I think, will eventually tions and the great certainty of prompt payment of their interest-principal and interest alike being secured under solemn guarantee of the constitution of the State-many compensations for Previous to the ratification of the funding law by the people a number of the creditors of the state availed themselves of its provisions, and now that the binding force of the law is placed beyond itors will come forward to fund their bonds. A difficult and responsible duty will thus be thrown

THE FUNDING BOARD As at present constituted that Board consists of he Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Speaker and Piscal Agent. Its operations thus far have been for the most part guarded and conservative and marked by a disposition rather to discourage than encourof the law should be finally settled. Now that the number of bonds presented for funding is likely to be increased, I think a change in the composition of the Board is desirable. It seems Board should not be composed of State officers and I suggest that in a matter which affects so largely the interests of the business community, that the annually elected Presidents of the Cnamber of Commerce, Cotton Exchange and Mershants' Exchange, of New Orleans, ex officio, toselected by them, might very properly be constituted the Board. I earnestly commend this subject to your early consideration as one of great importance to the credit of the State. I further rations of the State he regulated by law in such a manner as will enable the officers of the State and all taxpayers and creditors of the State to resist the funding of any illegal evidences of debt by ad-

Next in urgency to the condition of the State nances, the embarrassed and crippled condition of the city of New Orleans demands your attention. The debt of the city, built up during a series of years of maladministration of the city affairs, aided by unwise legislative enactments, is now so great that the annual tax required to keep up the interest payments has become AN ALMOST INSUPPERABLE BURDEN

apon the property of a large class of worthy and aw abiding citizens, who endeavor to pay their taxes when due, and an excuse to other citizens generally, of greater means and less respect for The expenses of the city for a considerable period have annually exceeded its revenue, and the volume of its floating and bonded debt has thus increased year by year with accelerating rapidity. shecking this alarming tendency I submitted to the last Legislature a constitutional amendment, approved by the Chamber of Commerce and the then City Council, prohibiting any jurther increase of the city debt in any form or under any pretext, and providing, under severe penalties, that arter should be issued by any officer of the city except ment was passed by the Legislature, and though opposed at the late election on the same unreason this administration, was ratified by the people, and now forms part of the constitution of the State.

RECOMMENDS A NUMBER OF MEASURES He recommends a large number of measures. you, gentlemen of the Legislature, the great im portance of at once carrying into effect the reforms and reductions of the public expenditures which I have indicated and others which will scaled down our State dept to a point which will enable us, by economy, thrift and good management, to meet our interest promptly and greatly appreciate our bonds, we owe it to our creditors secure to holders of our bonds the promised enbancement of the State credit and to our taxpayers and people generally that relief from op-pressive burdens which will increase the proscapital once more within our borders. I assure you that any well considered measures you may pass, having in view the further reduction of State and city expenditures and the further reduction of taxation, will promptly receive Executive ap-

IN CONCLUSION

Governor Kellogg says:-You cannot be unaware that throughout a large portion of the State a condition of anarchy and violence has more or less prevailed for some time past; that the laws have been disregarded, blood has been shed, and the constituted authorities have been displaced by force. In the interest of the whole people let me beg of you to take immediate measures to secure which no civilized community can prosper. No amount of misgovernment, no oppressive taxation, no usurpation of office, if such there be, can satisfactorily explain to the people of other comhuman life in Louisiana than in almost any other State of the Union; that grave crimes are committed and go unpunished of justice, the criminals often having the sympathy of the community; that assassination for political reasons is practised and applauded, and that in the whole of where a peaceful, industrious citizen from another and be permitted to pursue his avocation without annoyance or molestation. So long as lawless ness is known to prevail our railroads will remain unfinished and capital and emigration will seek other fields for investment. THE GREAT NEED OF LOUISIANA

is peace. The evils complained of are infinitely less injurious to the credit and prosperity of the State than the sanguinary riots which have marked our history during the past year. And, let me add, gentlemen, by way of solemn warning, that when, as we have recently seen in this city, the very children, taught by the example of the elders, are permitted to resort to violence to en-force their peculiar opinions, we are sowing the wind to reap the whiriwind. Armed political organizations that have recently been formed throughout the State are for the moment united by a common interest, but the time will come when they will no longer have a unity of purpose and then the lesson they have been taught that force can rightfully override law may unhappli-lead to other scenes of violence and bloodshed

Permit me to sav, in conclusion, that no one can more carnestly desire some final settlement of the difficulties that for two years have disturbed the State than I do myself. But I nave responsibilities

I cannot avoid. I am sustained by the courts and recognized by the President as Executive of this CONTINUED ON SEVENTH PAGE